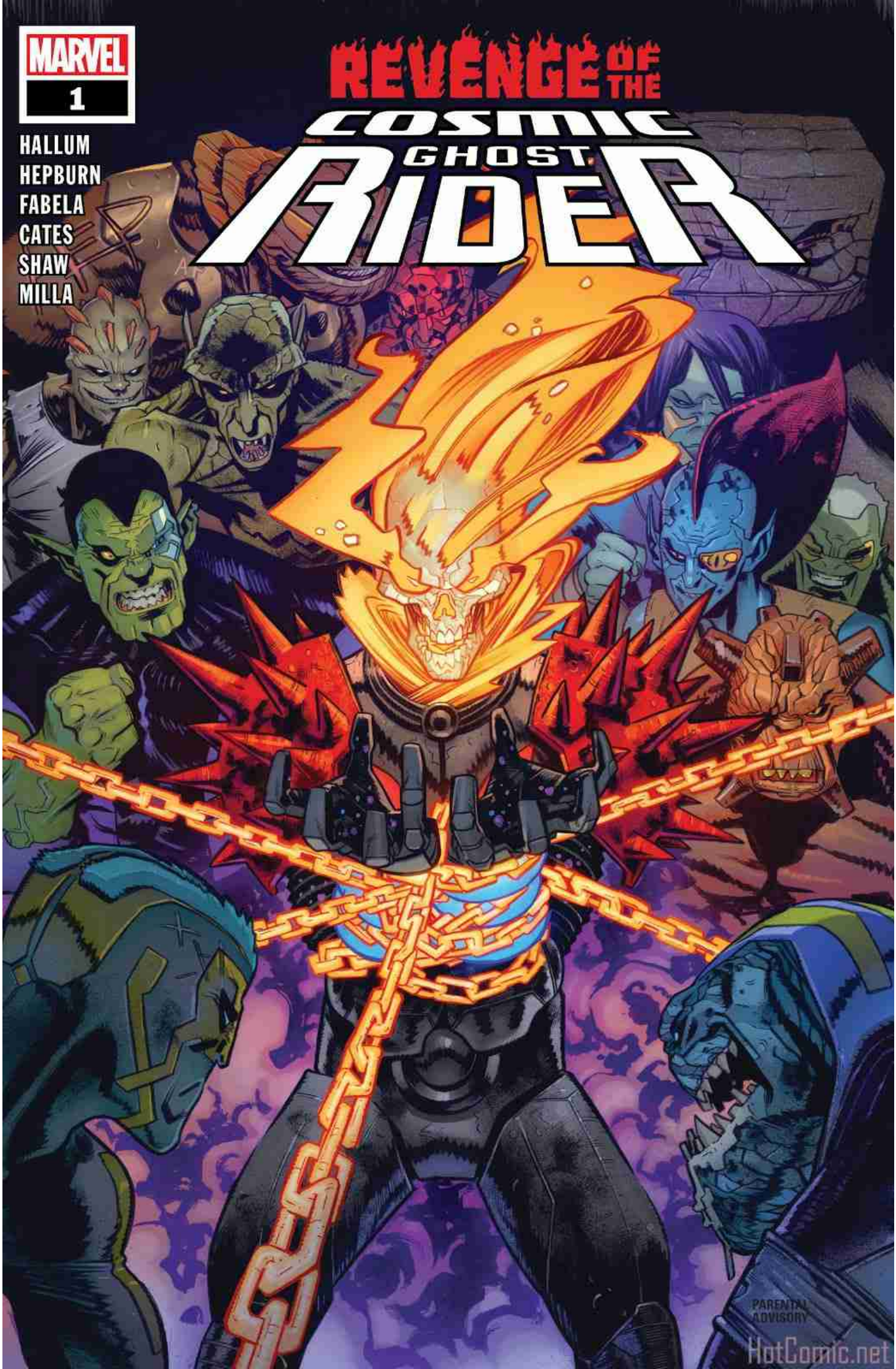
MARVEL
1
REVENGE OF THE
COSMIC GHOST RIDER
HALLUM
HEPBURN
FABELA
CATES
SHAW
MILLA
PARENTAL ADVISORY
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FRANK CASTLE WAS A DECORATED MARINE AND AN UPSTANDING CITIZEN WHEN HIS FAMILY WAS KILLED IN A MOB HIT.
FROM THAT DAY, HE WAS A FORCE OF RETRIBUTION…UNTIL HE DIED.

AND THEN HE RETURNED AS THE GHOST RIDER, SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE.

AND THEN HE BECAME GALACTUS' HERALD.

AND THEN HE BECAME THE BLACK RIGHT HAND OF THANOS…

AND THEN HE DIED FOR REAL.

AND THEN HE WAS RESURRECTED IN VALHALLA AND WAS STUCK IN THE PAST.

AND THEN HE BECAME A MEMBER OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY FOR ONE MINUTE.

AND THEN HE RACED FOR THE THRONE OF HELL AGAINST EVERY OTHER GHOST RIDER IN EXISTENCE.

AND NOW…? NOW HE'S READY TO DOLE OUT SOME COSMIC PUNISHMENT.

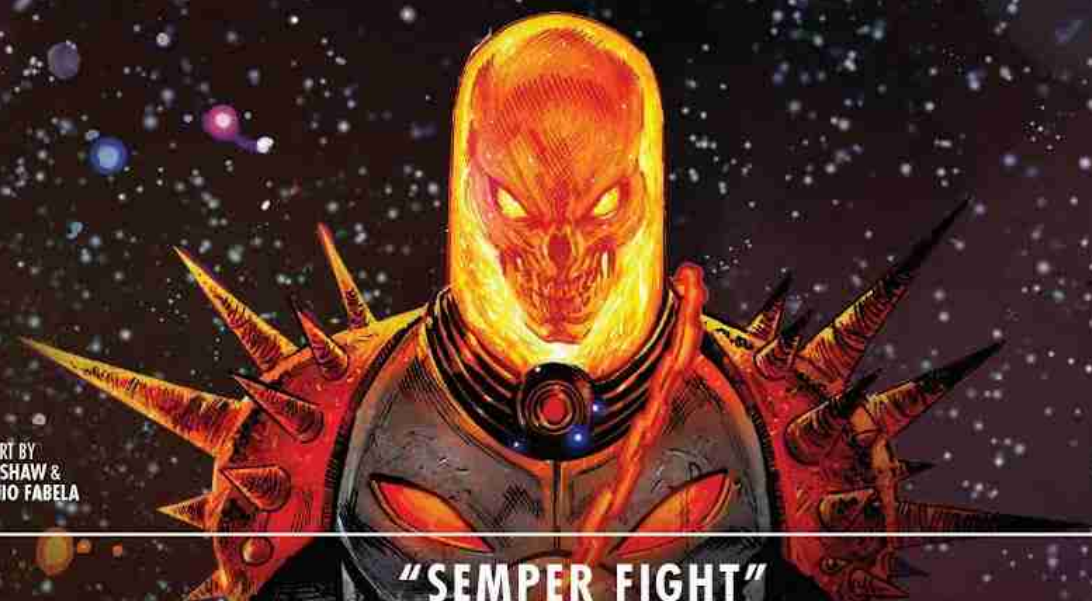
REVENGE OF THE COSMIC GHOST RIDER

PART 1 OF 5

DENNIS "HOPELESS" HALLUM writer

SCOTT HEPBURN artist

ANTONIO FABELA colorist



RECAP ART BY
GEOFF SHAW &
ANTONIO FABELA

"SEMPER FIGHT"

DONNY CATES writer **GEOFF SHAW** artist **MATT MILLA** colorist

VC's TRAVIS LANHAM letterer **SCOTT HEPBURN & ANTONIO FABELA** cover artists

ADAM GORHAM & BRIAN REBER; GERARDO ZAFFINO; LOGAN LUBERA & RACHELLE ROSENBERG; RON LIM & ISRAEL SILVA variant cover artists

CARLOS LAO graphic designer **LAUREN AMARO** assistant editor **DARREN SHAN** editor

C.B. CEBULSKI editor in chief **JOE QUESADA** chief creative officer **DAN BUCKLEY** president **ALAN FINE** exec. producer

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SHI'AR SUPER-MAX INTERGALACTIC PRISON.
JUST A CAGE LIKE ANY OTHER.
SPACE CAGE FULL OF SPACE CREEPS.
A HUMAN? SERIOUSLY?
SOME KIND OF MASS MURDERER BACK ON EARTH. STARTED KILLING OFF-PLANET.
BAGH. FISH WON'T SURVIVE THE NIGHT.
SADISTS, PSYCHOS AND KILLERS.
DON'T MATTER WHAT PLANET THEY'RE FROM.
ALL DESERVED TO BE PUNISHED.
I DUNNO... WORD IS HE'S KILLED SO MANY SENTIENTS THIS CYCLE, THEY SENT THE IMPERIAL GUARD AFTER HIM.
ONLY REAL DIFFERENCE IS, SPACE PRISON WAS BUILT TO WITHSTAND INTERGALACTIC GODS AND MONSTERS.
WORLD EATERS IN BIG PURPLE HATS.
WHICH MEANS THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY IN.
EVEN FOR ME.
GALACTIC SENATE. FOUR MONTHS BACK.
SORRY FOR THE SMELL, SENATORS.
SHAPE-SHIFTING GANGSTER SKRULLS TEND TO STINK WHEN YOU COOK 'EM.
GOTTA GET YOURSELF SENT.
CUTTER'S. TWO MONTHS BACK.
YOU'RE TEARING UP MY BAR!
DON'T SWEAT IT, BARKEEP. I'LL ONLY KILL WHAT NEEDS KILLING.

THE IMPERIAL GUARD?!
AFTER THAT SOFT-BELLIED HUMAN PUKE?
IT'S WHAT I HEARD.
"MUST BE HARDER THAN HE LOOKS.
RISE AND SHINE, BIRDBRAINS.
"GLADIATOR HIMSELF PASSED JUDGMENT."
CASTLE!
TELL ME WHY.
BECAUSE WAR CRIMES TEND TO GO UNPUNISHED...
...WHEN YOUR SIDE WINS.
HUH. MAYBE HE WILL SURVIVE THE NIGHT.
ALREADY MAKING FRIENDS.

SO YOU'RE THE PINK SKIN WHO TOOK OUT KRANDI'S BLACK WATER CREW?
COULD BE.
I TAKE OUT A LOT OF TRASH.
HARD TO REMEMBER ALL THEIR NAMES.
I WOULDN'T BE MAKING JOKES...
KRANDI--
HRRK! HEARRRD YOU THE FIRST TIME.
--WAS MY SISTER!
KRAAK

YOUR SISTER, HUH?
I HEAR YA.
HMM?
MAKES THIS A FAMILY OBLIGATION.
KAKRIK
KRAK
VENGEANCE SORTA THING.
HEY!
I KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT VENGEANCE...
...MYSELF.
W-WHAT THE HELL--
--ARE YOU?!
WHAT AM I?
I MEAN... HEH...

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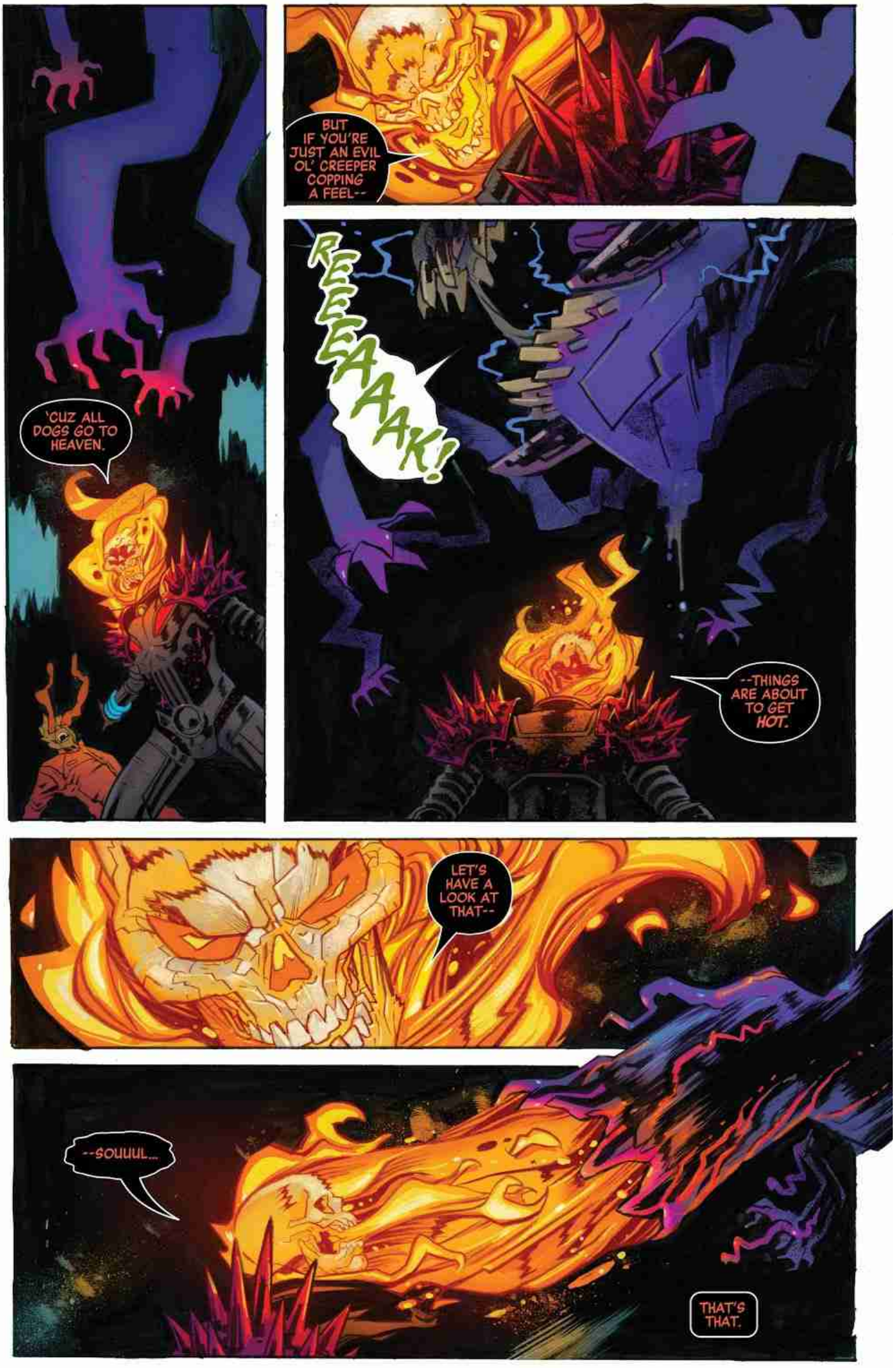
ONCE UPON A TIME, I WAS A GRIEVING HUSBAND AND FATHER.
CRAZY FROM THE PAIN OF MOURNING AND A LITTLE TOO GIFTED AT KILLING.
TRIED TO WASH MY CITY CLEAN WITH A RIVER OF BLOOD.
THEN ONE DAY I MET THE DEVIL.
SAID I COULD HOCK MY SOUL FOR SOME OF HIS HELLFIRE.
WHICH WAS FINE BY ME...
...SO LONG AS I COULD KEEP ON PUNISHING THE WICKED.
I THOUGHT YOU SAID HE WAS HUMAN!
I SAY A LOT OF STUPID THINGS!

'COURSE, THEN GALACTUS CAME TO EARTH AND...
GET HIM!
...THAT'S WHEN THINGS GOT REAL DAMN WEIRD.
KROOOOSH
KZZZZZZ
YAAAAAGH!

HE'S... PIERCED THE VEIL.
GODS!
IF THE POWER GOES DOWN. IF THAT THING GETS FREE. WE'RE...
ALREADY DEAD.
HEY!
WHO TURNED OUT THE LIGHTS?!
HRRRGL...
TELL ME YOU SCREWS DON'T THINK THE COSMIC GHOST RIDER'S SCARED OF THE...
GAAAH!
NO! NO! NYAAAAGH!
...DARK?
WHAT'S YOUR DEAL, BOOGIE?
GUARD DOG OR INMATE?


'CUZ ALL DOGS GO TO HEAVEN.
BUT IF YOU'RE JUST AN EVIL OL' CREEPER COPPING A FEEL--
REEEAAAK!
--THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET HOT.
LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THAT--
--SOUUUL...
THAT'S THAT.

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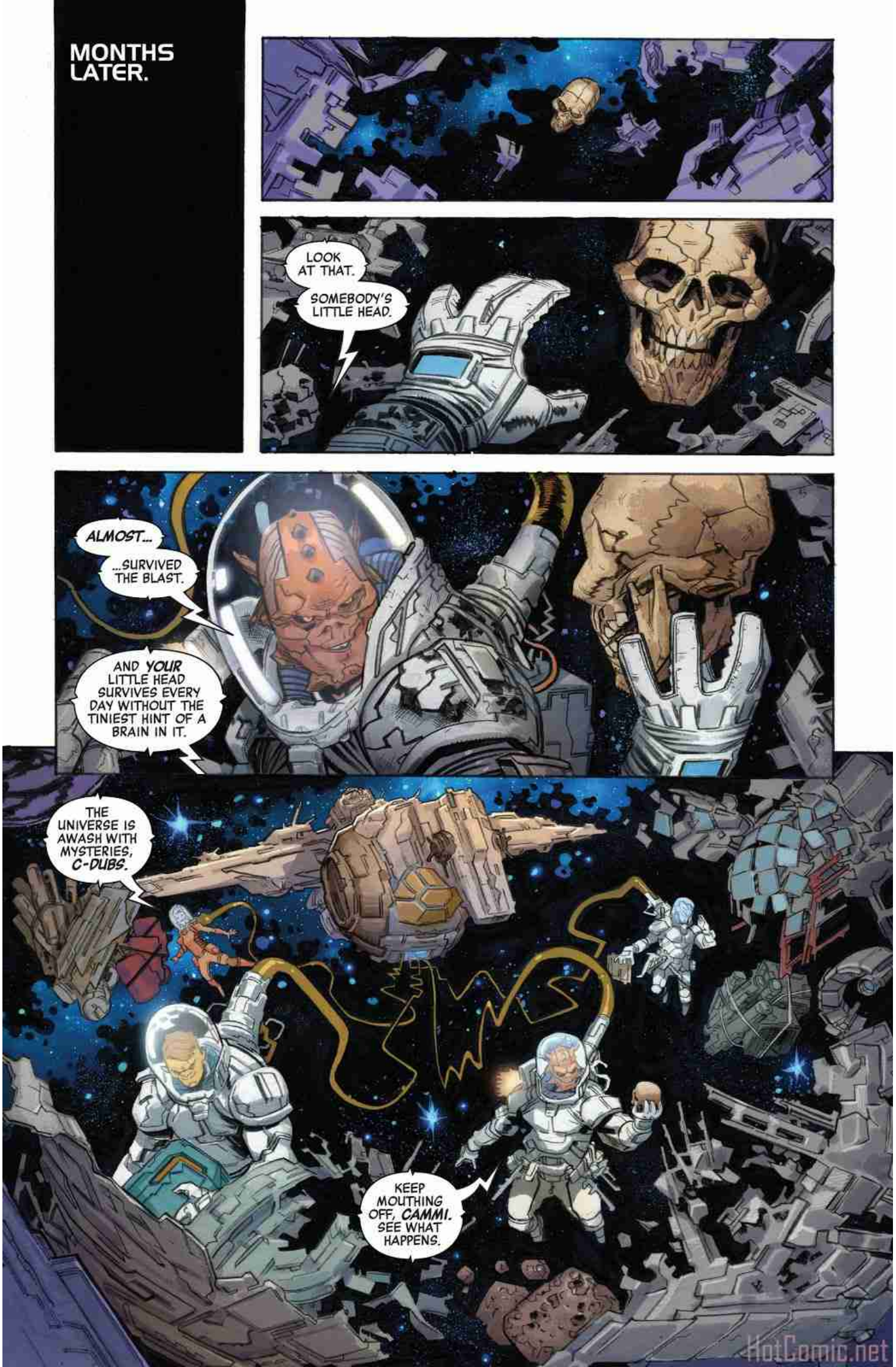
MONTHS LATER.
LOOK AT THAT.
SOMEBODY'S LITTLE HEAD.
ALMOST...
...SURVIVED THE BLAST.
AND YOUR LITTLE HEAD SURVIVES EVERY DAY WITHOUT THE TINIEST HINT OF A BRAIN IN IT.
THE UNIVERSE IS AWASH WITH MYSTERIES, C-DUBS.
KEEP MOUTHING OFF, CAMMI. SEE WHAT HAPPENS.
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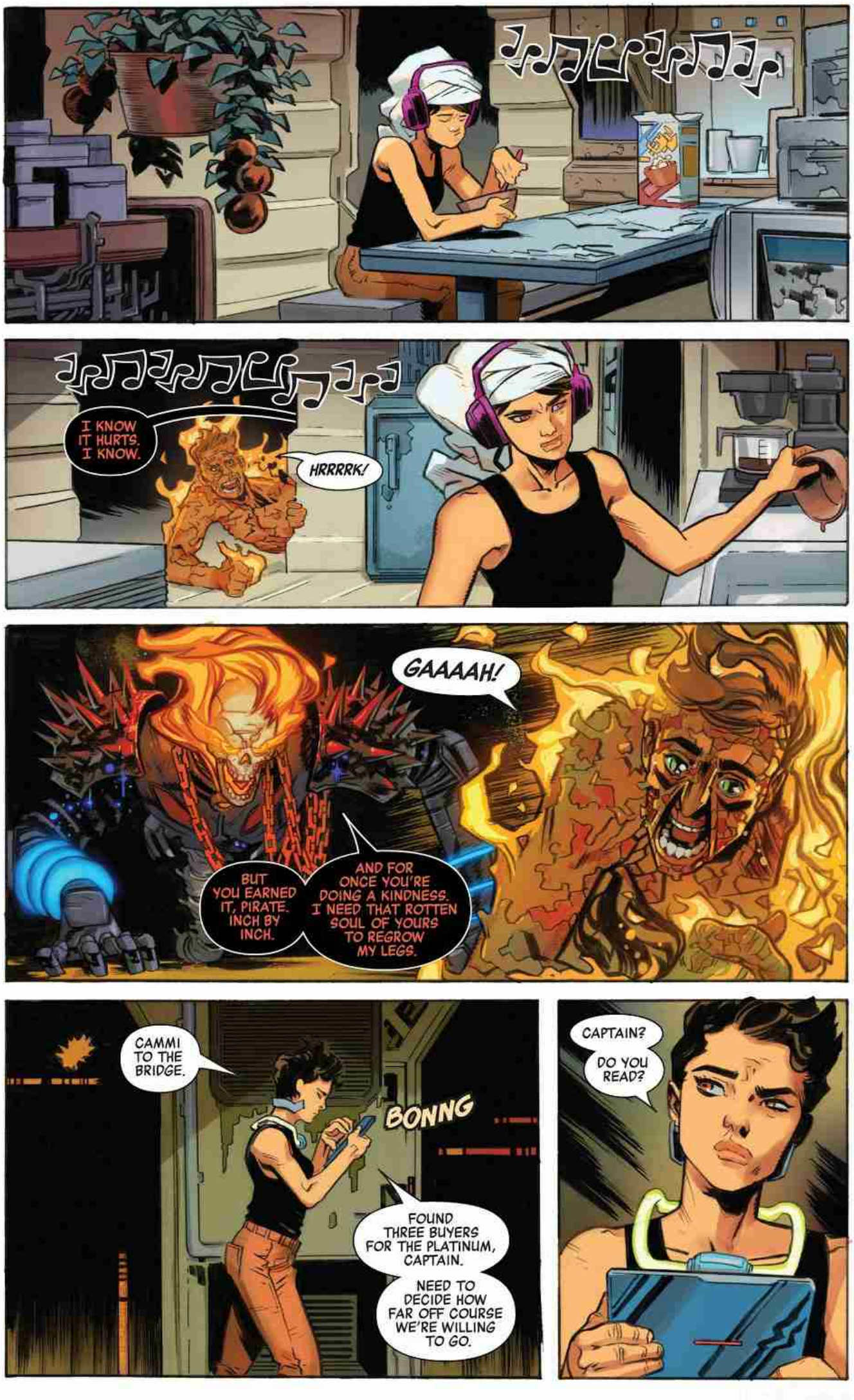
WHAT'D WE FIND?
SCOOPED UP A LOAD OF LOOSE PLASMA THAT SHOULD TURN A COIN. THEIR FUEL CELL MUST HAVE BEEN MASSIVE.
WE GOT A PILE OF RAW PLATINUM FROM THEIR POWER GRID AND A MOSTLY INTACT PROTEIN PLANT. ALONG WITH THE BLACK BOX THE BOSS WAS ASKING ABOUT.
WOOOSH
IS THAT EVERYTHING?
ALSO FOUND THIS SICK SKULL, CAPTAIN.
PRETTY SURE IT'S HUMAN.
NOW WE KNOW WHAT LITTLE CAMMI WILL LOOK LIKE AFTER I PEEL HER FACE OFF FOR RUNNING THAT MOUTH.
THAT'S RIGHT, CAPTAIN. IN CASE YOU WERE CURIOUS--
--C-DUBS IS STILL AN IDIOT.
KRNNNK
OW!
I'LL KILL YOU!
YOU PINK LITTLE--
WHAT?
THNNK
YOU ASKED ME TO QUIT RUNNING MY MOUTH.
THAT WAS AN ELBOW.
SQUASH IT RIGHT NOW OR I'LL SELL BOTH OF YOU FOR MEAT AT THE NEXT PORT!
AYE, CAPTAIN.

NOT ON YOUR BEST DAY, PIRATE.
LITTLE EARTH GIRL ALWAYS TALKING.
TALKING. TALKING.
THINKS THE CAPTAIN WILL KEEP HER SAFE.
BUT YOU LISTEN TO ME, FRIEND...
...I'LL CUT THE CAPTAIN STEM TO STERN IF IT COMES TO IT.
TAKE THE SHIP FOR MY OWN SELF.
THEN PAINT IT RED WITH CAMMI'S BLOOD.
DONE IT--
WOOOSH
--BEFORE...
IS THAT RIGHT?
YAAAAAAGH!

C-C-CAMMIII...
HELLLLP...


I KNOW IT HURTS. I KNOW.
HRRRRK!
GAAAAH!
BUT YOU EARNED IT, PIRATE. INCH BY INCH.
AND FOR ONCE YOU'RE DOING A KINDNESS. I NEED THAT ROTTEN SOUL OF YOURS TO REGROW MY LEGS.
CAMMI TO THE BRIDGE.
BONNG
FOUND THREE BUYERS FOR THE PLATINUM, CAPTAIN.
NEED TO DECIDE HOW FAR OFF COURSE WE'RE WILLING TO GO.
CAPTAIN?
DO YOU READ?

THERE YOU ARE.
LOOKS LIKE THE COMMS ARE ON THE FRITZ AGAIN.
LET'S SEND C-DUBS OUT TO WORK ON IT.
MAYBE HE'LL ACCIDENTALLY TUMBLE INTO THE ENDLESS VACUUM OF SPACE.
SORRY ABOUT THAT SCUFFLE, BY THE WAY.
HIS MURDEROUS RAGE AMUSES ME, BUT SOMETIMES I... OVERSHOOT...
CAPTAIN?
CAPTAIN?!
YEAH, NO, SHE'S DEAD.
KRAK
WENT OUT LIKE A CHAMP, THOUGH.
DIDN'T EVEN SCREAM WHEN HER EYEBALLS CAUGHT FIRE.
BLOM BLOM BLOM BLOM BLOM
AAAAAAAGH!

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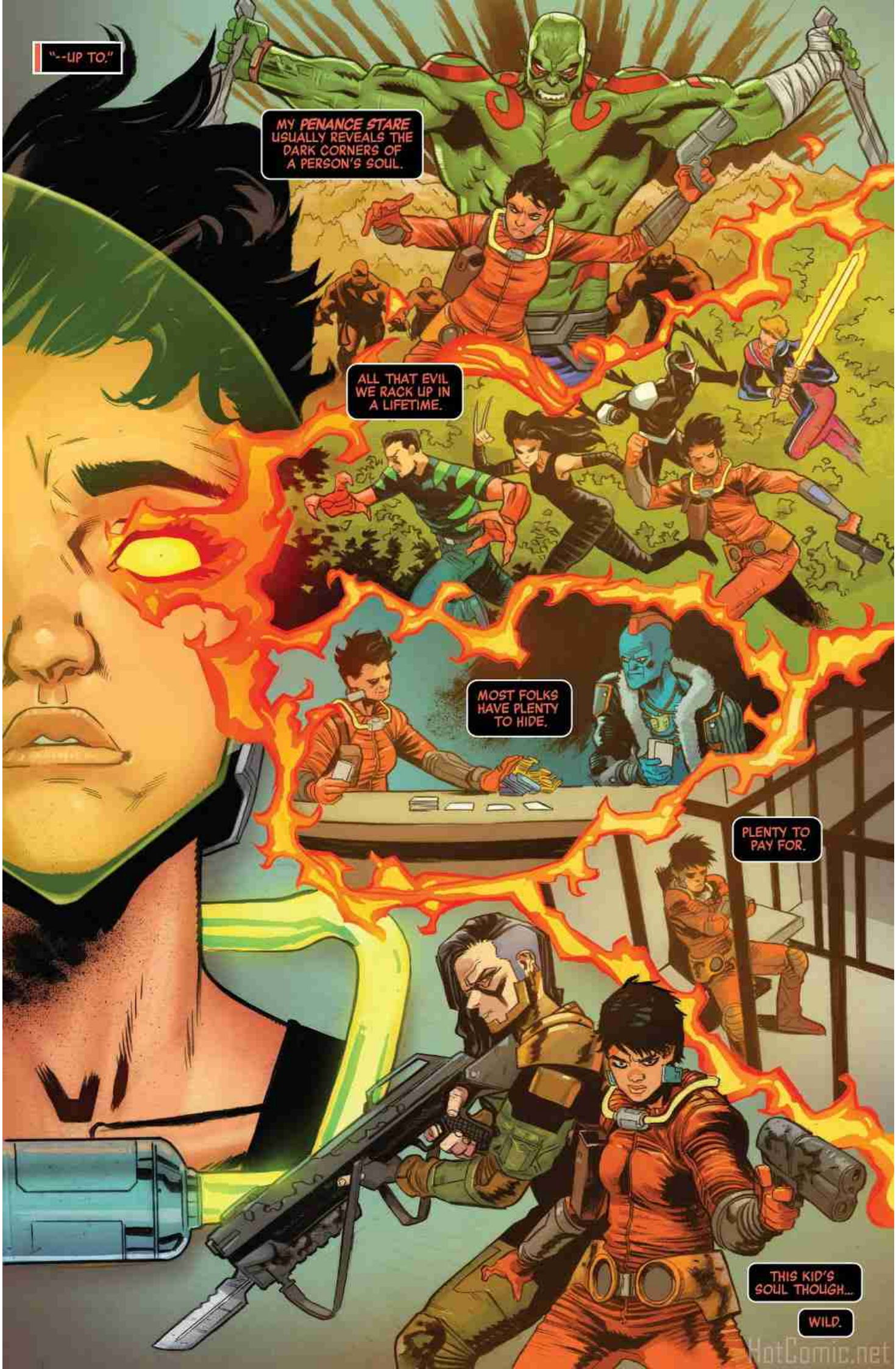
"--UP TO."
MY PENANCE STARE USUALLY REVEALS THE DARK CORNERS OF A PERSON'S SOUL.
ALL THAT EVIL WE RACK UP IN A LIFETIME.
MOST FOLKS HAVE PLENTY TO HIDE.
PLENTY TO PAY FOR.
THIS KID'S SOUL THOUGH...
WILD.
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YOU'RE AN INNOCENT.
WHAT?
I DON'T PUNISH THE INNOCENT.
I AM NOT INNOCENT!
YOU'RE A LITTLE BADASS WHO KEEPS TERRIBLE COMPANY.
BUT YOU HAVE A MORAL COMPASS. YOU DO THE RIGHT THING.
I DO NOT.
LISTEN, I'VE GOT BIGGER FISH TO FRY THAN A BROKEN LITTLE EARTH--
BROKEN?!
OH, YOU'RE GONNA FIND OUT ALL ABOUT BROKEN.
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHO THOSE PIRATES WERE WORKING FOR?
CAREFUL...
THE COSMIC KING, THAT'S WHO! NASTIEST THING OUT HERE SINCE THANOS. RUNS SYNDICATES IN TWENTY SYSTEMS NOW, PROBABLY MORE. YOU EITHER WORK FOR HIM OR YOU BURN FOR HIM.
AFTER WHAT YOU DID TO HIS SHIP AND CARGO, HE'S COMING. FOR ME AND YOU RIGHT AFTER. SO BUCKLE UP, BUTTERCUP, THIS IS GONNA BE A WHOLE NEW KIND OF HELL.
WELL, DOESN'T THAT SOUND LIKE FUN?
COMPUTER, OPEN A PORTAL TO HOTEL INFERNO.

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MEPHISTO.
I HAVE A NEED.
HEY, YOU. LONG TIME NO SEE.
WHAT CAN I DO YOU FOR?
FRANK CASTLE'S MORTAL SOUL.
HAHAHAHAHA!
WHAT IN THE HELL--
--COULD YOU POSSIBLY WANT WITH THAT?
TO BE CONTINUED!

EARTH.
NEW YORK.
I'M DONE.
I RIPPED TIME APART TRYING TO KILL THANOS... AND I FAILED.
THEN I FELL INTO BEING A GUARDIAN OF THE @#$%& GALAXY AND ENDED UP SENT TO HELL.
AGAIN.
ALL IN ALL, IT'S NOT BEEN A GREAT FEW HUNDRED MILLION YEARS.
BUT IT'S OVER NOW.
MARIA CASTLE
I JUST GOTTA SAY GOODBYE TO SOMEONE BEFORE I LEAVE THIS ROCK FOREVER.
HEY... THERE YOU ARE, BEAUTIFUL...
BEFORE IT GETS ANY WORSE.
HEY, FRANK.
AH, @#$%.

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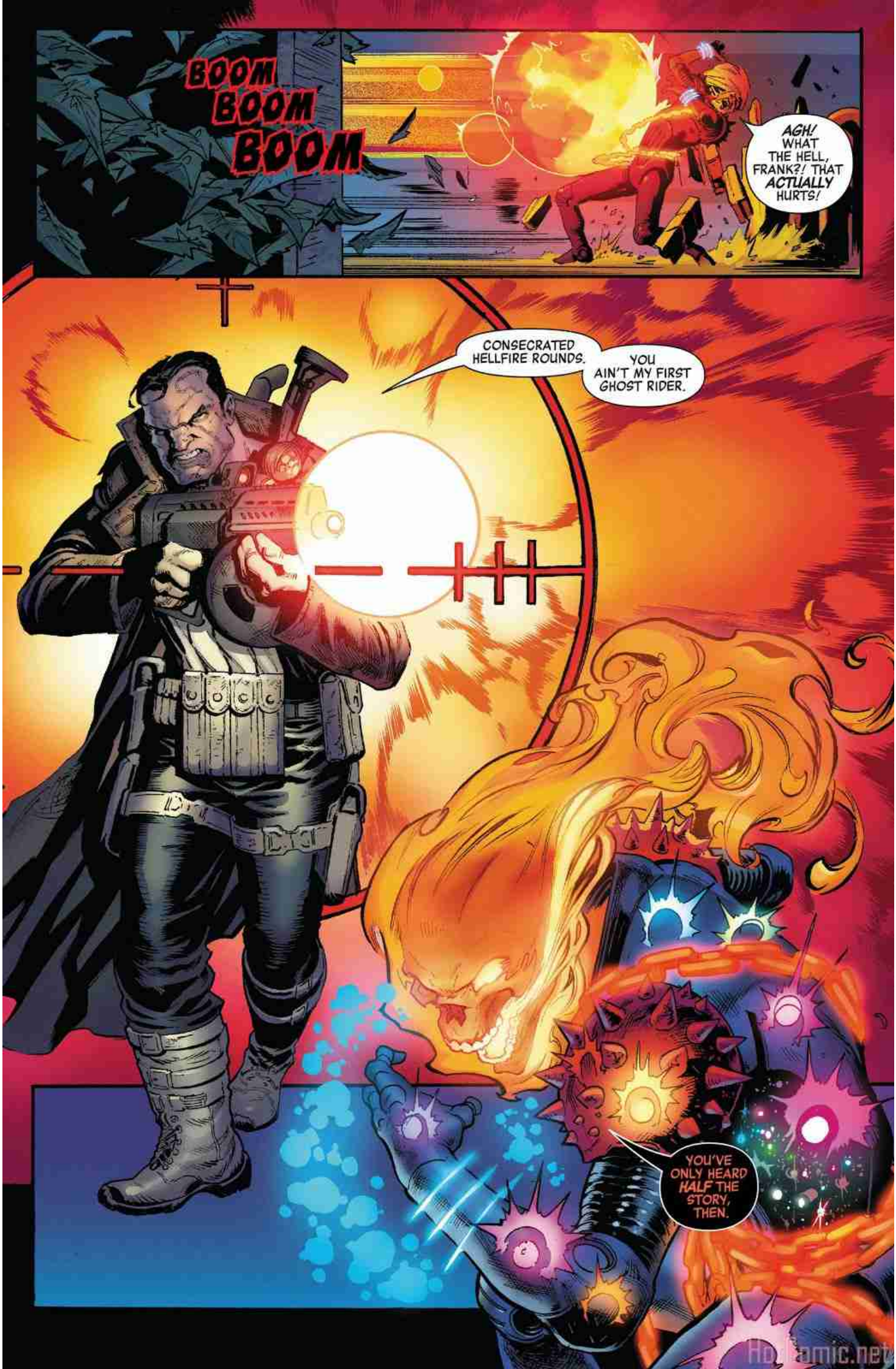
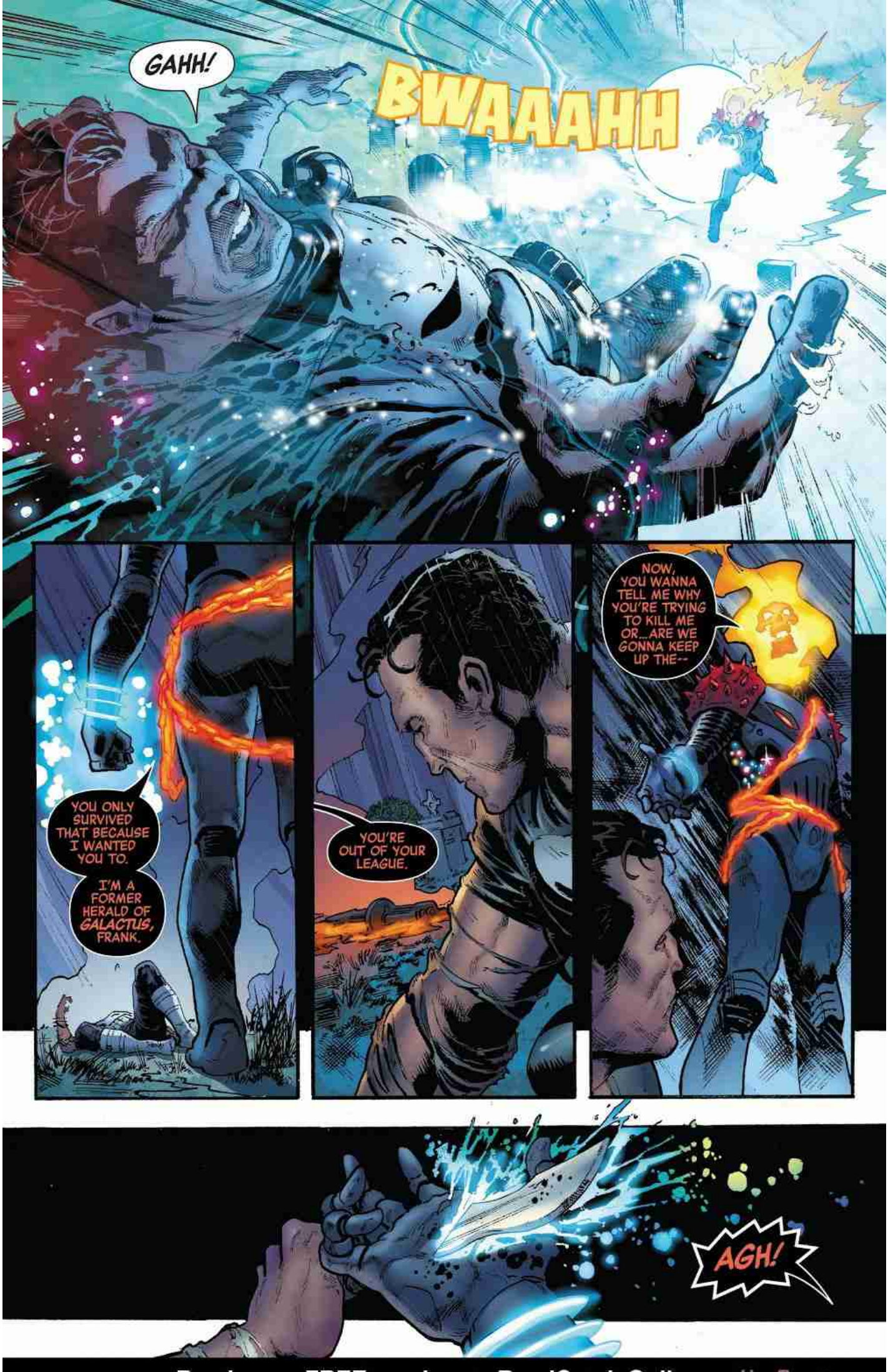
AH, FRANK. SO...
YOU, UH... YOU KNOW WHO I AM, THEN?
THAT'S...
OKAY...
YOU'VE BEEN RUNNING AROUND WITH THE AVENGERS SPOUTING OFF ABOUT BEING SOME KIND OF... FUTURE VERSION OF ME.
YOU DIDN'T THINK I'D HEAR ABOUT THAT?
NO. I FIGURED YOU WOULD...
IT'S JUST...
YOU'RE... UH, ACTING PRETTY CALM ABOUT IT IS ALL.
I WAS A FRANKENSTEIN ONCE.
I'M MORE OPEN-MINDED THAN I GET CREDIT FOR.
HA, THAT'S RIGHT! I FORGOT ABOUT THAT. MAN, THAT WAS...
HEHE, PRETTY FUNNY, YEAH...
RIGHT? SEE? PEOPLE SAY I'M A DUMB VERSION OF YOU, BUT THEN LIKE--
BOOM


BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
AGH! WHAT THE HELL, FRANK?! THAT ACTUALLY HURTS!
CONSECRATED HELLFIRE ROUNDS.
YOU AIN'T MY FIRST GHOST RIDER.
YOU'VE ONLY HEARD HALF THE STORY, THEN.


GAHH!
BWAAAHH
YOU ONLY SURVIVED THAT BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO.
I'M A FORMER HERALD OF GALACTUS, FRANK.
YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR LEAGUE.
NOW, YOU WANNA TELL ME WHY YOU'RE TRYING TO KILL ME OR...ARE WE GONNA KEEP UP THE--
AGH!

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WHAT THE...
OW, DUDE...
VIBRANIUM AND ADAMANTIUM. TENDS TO DO THE TRICK.
YOU'RE NOT INVINCIBLE.
YOU JUST NEVER FOUGHT ANYONE WHO CAN FIGHT.
STAND DOWN, FRANK. I PROMISE YOU...YOU DON'T WANT THIS.
JUST TALK TO ME, MAN! WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?
YOU KNOW WHAT YOU DID!
I KINDA DON'T!
RAGH!!!
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WHAT IS YOUR PROBLEM?! TELL ME!
YOU... WENT... BACK... IN TIME.
...COULD HAVE... CHANGED ANYTHING.
WHY DIDN'T... YOU... SAVE THEM?
NO... YOU...
YOU DON'T... WALK AWAY FROM ME!
ANSWER ME!!!
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAVE OUR FAMILY?!

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NEXT: DON'T MISS OUT AS COSMIC GHOST RIDER AND CAMMI EMBARK ON A TWO-PERSON CRUSADE AGAINST ONE OF THE BIGGEST CRIME SYNDICATES IN THE COSMOS!

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